

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 04125 251804Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 TRSE-00 LAB-04 /073 W
-----260121Z 111369 /73

R 251642Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9665
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 4125

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT,BE
SUBJECT: KING NAMES TINDEMANS AS "FORMATEUR"

REF: BRUSSELS 3869

SUMMARY: DESIGNATED FORMATEUR BY KING, PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS
UNDERTAKES THIS WEEK NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO FORMATION OF A
NEW GOVERNMENT. PROSPECT IS FOR A SOCIAL CHRISTIAN-SOCIALIST
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 04125 251804Z

COALITION ROUNDED OUT, POSSIBLY, BY FDF (BRUSSELS FRANCOPHONES)
AND VU (FLEMISH NATIONALISTS) PARTICIPATION. MEANWHILE, THE
SOCIALIST TRADE UNION (FGTB) APPLIES PRESSURE, SEEKING
TO MORTGAGE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY OF NEW GOVERNMENT.
END SUMMARY.

1. TO NO ONE'S SURPRISE (REFTEL), THE KING ON APRIL 22

NAMED TINDEMANS "FORMATEUR", I.E., HE ASKED THE PM TO FORM A NEW GOVERNMENT. AFTER PRELIMINARY CONSULTATIONS WITH PARTY LEADERS TINDEMANS SPENT THE WEEKEND DRAFTING AN OUTLINE OF A PROGRAM FOR HIS PROSPECTIVE GOVERNMENT. HE WILL NOW COMMENCE DISCUSSIONS WITH PROSPECTIVE COALITION PARTNERS ON THE BASIS OF THAT DOCUMENT. TINDEMANS HAS NOT YET INDICATED THE SORT OF COALITION HE WILL AIM FOR. BEFORE THE ELECTION HE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN A BIG COALITION OF THE THREE TRADITIONAL PARTIES (SOCIAL CHRISTIANS, SOCIALISTS, AND LIBERALS). BUT FLEMISH LIBERAL PARTY (PVV) PRESIDENT GROOTJANS SAID LAST WEEK THAT THE ELECTION WINNERS - THE CHRISTIAN AND SOCIALIST PARTIES - SHOULD MAKE THE FIRST TRY AT CREATING A GOVERNMENT.

2. THE SOCIALISTS AND THE SOCIAL CHRISTIANS WILL COMMAND A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY IN THE NEW CHAMBER - ENOUGH TO PROCEED TO DEFINITIVE ACTION ON THE THORNY QUESTION OF REGIONALIZATION. BUT IN WEEKEND TV INTERVIEWS CVP PARTY PRESIDENT WILFRIED MARTENS AND PSB PARTY CO-PRESIDENT ANDRE COOLS INDICATED INTEREST IN A BROADER MAJORITY - MEANING A WIDER SHARING - OUT OF POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY HARD DECISIONS ON REGIONALIZATION - BY BRINGING THE FDF AND POSSIBLY THE VU INTO A NEW GOVERNMENT COALITION.

3. MEANWHILE THE SOCIALIST TRADE UNION FEDERATION FGTB MOVED PROMPTLY TO STAKE OUT LABOR'S DEMANDS FOR COMMITMENTS BY THE NEW GOVERNMENT ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 04125 251804Z

ISSUES. AT A POST-ELECTION CONGRESS HELD AT GHENT APRIL 22 FGTB APPROVED A DOCUMENT ENTITLED "A PROGRESSIVE ALTERNATIVE" WHICH WAS IN ESSENCE A RESTATEMENT OF THE SOCIALIST CAMPAIGN PLATFORM ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICY. FGTB LEADER GEORGES DEBUNNE SAID HE HOPED THIS WILL SERVE AS A BASIS FOR AN AGREED POLICY POSITION OF FGTB AND THE CHRISTIAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION. (CSC).RENNER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, COALITION GOVERNMENT, NEGOTIATIONS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE04125
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770144-0314
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770424/aaaaauju.tel
Line Count: 104
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f7dc16a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BRUSSELS 3869
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2709698
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KING NAMES TINDEMANS AS "FORMATEUR"
TAGS: PINT, BE, (TINDEMANS, LEO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f7dc16a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009